

MINUTES

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION (LRC) ENERGY POLICY ISSUES

COMMITTEE MEETING

March 21, 2012

Questions and Answers

Presentation on CNG school buses: efficiencies; sales; and market.

Kelley Platt, President and CEO

Thomas Built Buses

Senator Rabon: I see what your customers like and what your customers don't like about CNG buses. What does Thomas Built Buses like or dislike about it other than you just like selling buses. What is your attitude toward them?

Ms. Platt: We like selling buses. We actually think that school buses are a natural use for CNG and we think that over time, particularly as soon as we get an engine available for our conventional bus, that we will see a very rapid move toward CNG buses, because, in most places, CNG buses do come home to the same place every night, whether it's to a school or to a centralized lot. So, the time to slow fill is not an issue for them. It is a clean fuel, the buses are quiet, and we think there is going to be a big move to CNG buses.